

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 USUN N 02262 152343Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----079850 152346Z /65

O 152215Z JUL 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHIC IMMEDIATE 4492

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T USUN 2262

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MOPS, PDEV, ET, SO, US

SUBJ: SOMALI REQUESTS US ARMS

REF: STATE 161221

1. WE REGRET THIS COMMENT WAS DELAYED BY THE NEW YORK BLACK-OUT. FOR POSSIBLE INTEREST AND REACTION OF ADDRESSEES, HOWEVER, USUN TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL.

2. VIEWING THE PROBLEM OF STRATEGY TOWARD SOMALIA FROM THE UN VANTAGEPOINT, WE OF COURSE AGREE THAT WE SHOULD NOT DO ANYTHING TO UPSET THE MOMENTUM OF SOMALI MOVES AWAY FROM
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 USUN N 02262 152343Z

THE USSR. OUR IMPRESSION, FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK, IS THAT THE SOMALI SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVES HAS CREATED REAL PRESSURE ON THE SOVIET UNION.

3. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT CLEAR WHAT "MORE NORMAL US-SOMALI RELATIONS" ARE, GIVEN THE HISTORY OF THE LAST

TEN YEARS OR SO. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN ANY EVENT NORMAL RELATIONS OUGHT TO BE BUILT PRIMARILY ON MILITARY TIES, WHETHER TO FILL NEEDS CREATED BY THE RIFT IN SOMALIA'S SOVIET RELATIONSHIP OR TO BUILD A FUTURE DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE ON THE US. WE THEREFORE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE MEASURES OSTENSIBLY POINTING TOWARD MORMALCY IN OUR RELATIONS LISTED IN PARA 7 OF REFTEL ARE LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SOMALIS OR HELPFUL IN LAYING A MORE SOLID BASE FOR OUR EFFORT TO DEVELOP A POSITION IN RELATION WITH SOMALIA SERVING OUR REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL NEEDS.

4. WE EXCEPT FROM THE LATTER POINT THE IDEA OF ACCELERATED FOLLOW-UP TO RECENT USAID ECONOMIC SURVEY TEAM. IT SEEMS TO US PERFECTLY TUNED TO OUR POSTURE ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE HORN (SUDAN), FOR US TO EMPHASIZE OUR WILLINGNESS TO LOOK AT ECONOMIC REQUIREMENTS. WE HAVE A CERTAIN BASE ON WHICH TO WORK IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD IN SOMALIA OUT OF THE HISTORY OF THE '60'S. AFRICANS WOULD NOT BE PARTICULARLY SURPRISED IF WE ORCHESTRATED OUR APPROACH TO CLOSER SOMALI RELATIONS WITH MILITARY GESTURES, AND SOME MIGHT APPLAUD, BUT BASICALLY IT WOULD CUT AGAINST THE GRAIN OF OUR TOTAL POLICY-SET IN THE CONTINENT. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONFORMS WITH THE POSTURE WE ARE DEVELOPING.

5. THE SOMALI FOCUS ON MILITARY NEEDS, OF COURSE, WILL NOT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 USUN N 02262 152343Z

GO AWAY. WE THEREFORE THINK IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO CONTINUE LISTENING, PERHAPS AGREE TO A MILITARY SURVEY OF SOMALI MILITARY NEEDS BY OUR PEOPLE. ANY RESPONSE SHOULD BE MEASURED, HOWEVER, AND AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ESTABLISH THE US ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE OF THE AID EFFORT RATHER THAN MILITARY.

6. ONE ADDITIONAL NOTE THAT NO DOUBT IS OBVIOUS IS THAT THE SOMALI MILITARY OBJECTIVES AS REFLECTED IN THE SHOPPING LIST REFTEL HARDLY SEEM DEFENSIVE IN NATURE. THEY WOULD SEEM STILL TO SUPPORT SOMALI OBJECTIVES IN THE OGADEN AND DJIBOUTI.
LEONARD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, ARMS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN02262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770253-0314
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770751/aaaabrvd.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a72fc06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 161221
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1842948
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI REQUESTS US ARMS
TAGS: MASS, MOPS, PDEV, ECON, ET, SO, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a72fc06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009